



Analyzing a Visual Text

I.

The title of the painting is _____.

The artist is _____.

One detail in the foreground is _____.

One detail in the background is _____.

II.

The title of the painting is _____.

The artist is _____.

One detail in the foreground is _____.

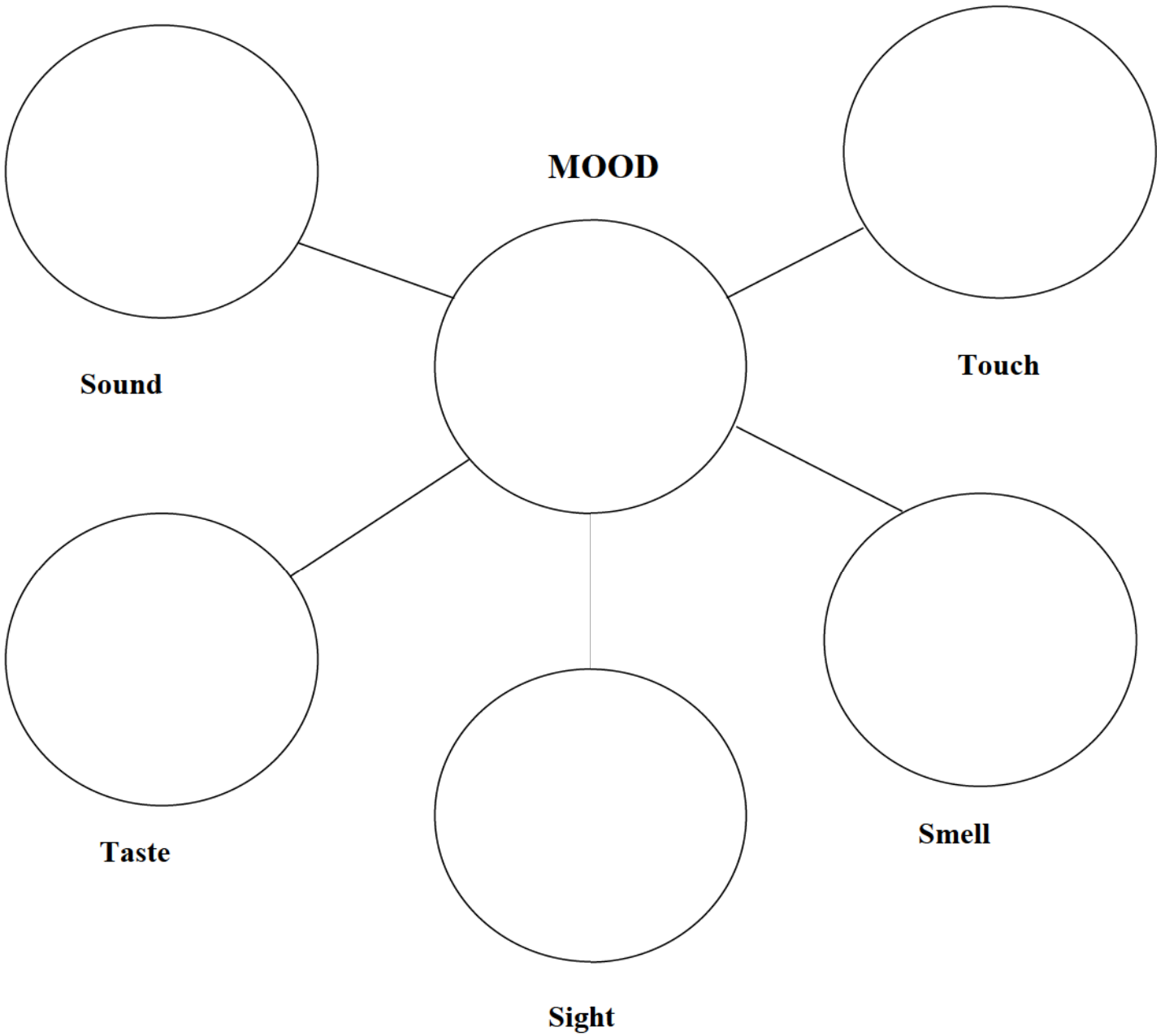
One detail in the background is _____.

III.

Write a brief description of the scene depicted in the painting.

IV.

Using details in the painting, complete the chart below.



V.

What patterns do you see in the imagery? Are there any contrasts?

Look at the words you wrote in the graphic above to describe the mood of the painting. Think about that mood in the context of what is happening.

While Icarus is drowning, the others in the painting are _____,

and the mood of the painting can be described as _____

which demonstrates the idea that _____

Look at the idea you wrote above, then write a thematic statement about the painting, *Landscape with the Fall of Icarus*. What does this picture have to say about human experience?

List three or more specific details from the painting that support this theme.

VI.

Which detail in the painting most effectively conveys the theme? Justify your answer.

VII. Landscape with the Fall of Icarus

According to Brueghel
when Icarus fell
it was spring

a farmer was ploughing
his field
the whole pageantry

of the year was
awake tingling
near

the edge of the sea
concerned
with itself

sweating in the sun
that melted
the wings' wax

unsignificantly
off the coast
there was

a splash quite unnoticed
this was
Icarus drowning



- William Carlos Williams

From *Collected Poems: 1939–1962, Volume II* by William Carlos Williams, published by New Directions Publishing Corp. © 1962 by William Carlos Williams. Reprinted by permission of New Directions Publishing Corp.

Directions: Add end punctuation and capitalization to the poem to indicate the five complete sentences. Then examine Brueghel's painting again, but this time try to view the events from the perspective of someone more connected to the scene, such as one of the following:

- Someone on the deck of the ship
- The plowman
- The fisherman on the bank
- The shepherd
- Icarus
- Daedalus

Using the Williams poem as a model, create an original poem. Begin with "According to _____, when Icarus fell . . ." (or "When I fell . . .")

Share your poem with other students.